P

G.R.S. III-21

Previous references. Gen/132-23 Nos 8 & 10. 1924-25 Gen

File No. 49-24

Serial No. 4.

Later references.

PRESERVED

P-39

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos One (1)

Part B for Oct. 1924.

SUBJECT

Tour Notes of ~~the~~ Second member of Council in the Kadur & Shimoga Districts, July & August 1924.

Sl 4. To The Secretaries to Govt.
The Heads of Departments.
The Deputy commissioners of Kadur & Shimoga Districts.
The Presidents of Kadur & Shimoga Dist. Boards
The Special Officer, L.S.G.
The Govt Director, Iron works Bhadravati.
No 9284-94/- G 18-10-24.

Forwards for necessary action the tour notes of the Second member of Council in the Kadur & Shimoga Districts in July & August 1924.

G. R. S. 59] GPB—15,000—22-7-14

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1914.

(L.R.)

File No. 1-14

Serial Nos. 151 & 152.

Papers Filed.

Month March 1915

SUBJECT.

Petn from Syamayya of Mallikere, Malur-taluk, Kolar-dist praying for the restoration of the Inam lands granted to Sri Venugopalakrishnaswami Temple.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES.
	Lr Venkayyapa Hy Dis 31-3-15

M. 3. 4/35 (1.

Secy 49-210

1039

REPLY

(*To be written on this margin.*)

OFFICE OF THE

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL

NOTE

6

Dated 8/8/24 *192*

DEWAN'S OFFICE,
RECD. ON 15. AUG. 1924
Reg. No. 12310

A copy of my note of Inspection in connection with my recent tour in the Kadur & Shimoga Districts is herewith Enclosed.

Chief Secy with compliments

Rs
8/6
8

(1) may the four notes be printed & issued?

Dewan (2) Yes.

Secy 9/8/24 Dewan 13/8

(3) Copies with Yes 14/8

(4) (Hon'ble Members have already received them)

Secy 14/8

(5) The Inspection Notes of the 1st & 2nd Members of Council were subd. to H.H. on 8/8/24 and on return, sent to Ch. Secy. on 13/8/24. (Vide H.H. No 69).

31/8/24

G. R. S. III-21

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Gm File No. 49 of 19 24

Serial No.

6 Information regd in para 3 & 4 is furnished in para 5.

Subd with a Dft for orders

11/9

8 June 1924

put up accordingly

Issued vide G 1885 dt 8.9.24.

Press Sec

The first proof since received was verified & sent to Press again for furnishing a Clean Copy - In the meanwhile the file is subd as directed in para 8.

Should have been put up earlier.

11/9/24

TSS 20/9.

Subd with ref. to paras 3, 4. attention is invited to Jamas

Cleared

Dw 20/9

Dw Manager to print accordingly

by 24/9/24

Dw 24/9

Printed Copies of Law Rules were received just today. A Dft O. M. is Subd.

11/14/10

Dw

Jessie 24/9/24

* 5 out of 7 printed copies placed in the file cover being placed at the disposal of the Second Member, Office, now in Camp at Mysore

11/14/10

Dw

Sec No 56.

G. R. S. III-2.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. 49 of 1924.

773

(3)

Serial No.	
4	To: The Secretaries to Govt. " Heads of depts. " Deputy Commrs. of Kadur & Shimoga Dts. " Presidents of Kadur & Shimoga Municipalities " Special Offr. L.S.G. " Director, Iron Works G. 2847-94 dt 18.10.24 Forwards for necessary action the tour notes of the Second Member of Council in the Kadur & Shimoga Dts in Jan & Feb 1924. To cross notice if a copy may be placed on the Press Table. 25/10 Secy 23/10 Will previous notes of Members tours placed on the Press Table Secy 23/10 Yes Flag A. Secy 132-23-10 pertaining to the Second Member's tour in the Shimoga Dt in March 24 is put up. As seen from this the Member's tour notes were not placed on the Press Table. Secy 24/10 Your notes need not be placed on the Press Table unless so ordered in any ordinary / special instance. They are of Confidential character 25/10 NOTE—Contn. sheet. Secy 24/10 Why was this point raised? — to place these notes Not necessary Secy

T

(4

G. R. S. VI—G/32]

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to 773

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, *the* 191 .

Date of issue 8-9-24

Signed by Mr. M.V.J.

Section Gen

File No. 49-24

Serial No –

No. G 1885/Gen/1

To

The Supdt. Govt. Printing

Sir,

In enclosing herewith a copy of the Inspection Notes relating to the Second Member's tour in July & Aug 24 in the Kadur & Shimoga Dts., I am directed to request you will be so good as to set it in type and furnish 2 clean proofs

over..

Rs 415

~~Tanker~~
proofs for Verification.
Plate etc
Printing
From Company

#117

List of enclosures.

Copied by

Examined by

WD 515

(6)

TOUR NOTES OF THE

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL

IN THE KADUR AND CHIKMAGALUR DISTRICTS.

July and Aug. 1924.

- - -

31st July 1924. — Sd —

Left Bangalore in the morning by the passenger train for Tarikere.

The Deputy Commissioner of Kadur with the - - Executive Engineer and the Police Superintendent of the District met me at Birur and accompanied me from there to Tarikere.

Messrs. C. Ranganatha Rao Sahib (Director, Mysore Iron Works) and Mr. Lachiah met me on arrival at Tarikere.

Inspected with Mr. Ranganatha Rao Sahib, the Deputy Commissioner and the Vice President of the Tarikere Municipality the sheds belonging to the Bhadravati Iron Works, about ½ furlongs from the T.B. ———

— There are about 20 kutcha sheds (with tatti walls plastered with mud, and roofing of pot tiles) and a good pakka building with Bangalore tiled roof. Most of the kutcha sheds are in dilapidated condition. The land on which the sheds stand is about 4 acres in extent and is said to have been acquired for the Iron Works at a cost of about Rs.2,000. Mr. Ranganatha Rao Sahib said that the land as well as the buildings are no longer wanted for the Iron Works and that he wanted to dispose of them. The land with the sheds may well be taken over to the Municipality to be used as health camps on - occasions of outbreak of epidemics like plague etc. in the town.

(2)

1st August 1924.) See

Left Tarikere for Shimoga by motor at 9.30 and arrived at the latter place at about 11 Mr. Machiah, District Forest Officer of Bhadravati who is in temporary charge of the Shimoga Forest division joined me at Bhadravati and accompanied me to Shimoga. The Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga (Mr. Taj Peeran) with the Executive Engineer of the District (Mr. Steele) and the District Superintendent of Police (Mr. Abdul Cani) also joined me about a mile beyond Bhadravati. A few katcha houses and sheds on the road side close to the river at Bhadravati have been badly damaged by the recent high flood. At Islapur, a hamlet at the out-skirts of Shimoga, beyond the Railway station, some houses have collapsed and others badly damaged. There were traces on the walls of the houses to show that the water had risen to a height of nearly 6 feet.

The wood-yard adjoining the Shimoga Railway station had all been flooded and a considerable quantity of timber stocked here which belonged to Messrs. Ameer Ahmed and Bhishan Singh, contractors, had been washed away. Mr. Ameer Ahmad's house (a substantial building) was under water to a height of 6 or 7 feet and has collapsed, and timber valued at some thousands of rupees stocked behind the house has been washed away.

Visited the Government wood-yard, Sandal Koti, the Travellers' Bungalow and the Railway station. Water had collected to a depth of 5 feet in the Government wood-yard and most of the ~~Government~~ timber stocked there had been washed away. Though there was 2 or 3 feet water in the Sandal Koti enclosure, the sandal-wood stacked there luckily escaped being washed off owing to the protection of the

WP 516
E.S.

compound wall. In view of the recurring damage caused to the wood-yard it is desirable to shift it to a higher place which will be safe from inundation. The Conservator will be requested to look into the matter and submit necessary proposals.

The Railway line which had been washed away for some furlongs near the station has been repaired. The main line has just been restored for passenger traffic right up to the station, and I am informed that it would be ready for goods traffic also in 2 or 3 days. The Railway Engineer, Mr. A. Viswanath is supervising the restoration work in person.

The T.B. has not suffered any damage, the flood level having just reached the compound and not touched the main building. The out-houses of the T.B. are occupied by the poor people who have been rendered homeless and destitute by the collapse of their houses.

The Gourpalai's choultry has also not suffered much damage though it was under water to a height of 3 or 4 feet.

The District Medical Officer, the Vice President of the Municipality (Mr. Subba Rao Naik), the members of the Relief Committee and some other leading gentlemen -Messrs. C. Subba Rao, Garudachar, Seetharamiah, Valentine, Sesha Sastri, Ameer Ahmad, Bhishan Singh &c. having joined me, went round with them and visited all the parts of the town which had suffered from the floods, -the Chick Brahmin street, Ekambara Pillai street, Big Brahmin street, Cogeha[illegible]i, Gumbargeri, Kanchugar Doodi, Gumkur Bhima Rao's street, Thimmappan Koppal &c. A very large number of houses -some of them very valuable and substantial ones- in this

locality have completely collapsed and others so badly damaged as to be unfit for occupation unless they are ~~thoroughly~~ repaired at a heavy cost. The Police ookkad at the end of the town has crumbled down and been washed away. The river which takes a bend and practically changes its course at this spot has overflown the banks and rushed into the town towards the Kumbargundi completely enveloping the Big Brahmin street and some other streets the inhabitants of which numbering about 200 are said to have sought shelter in the house of Mr. Kerodi Rama Rao which is on a somewhat high level from which they were rescued in boats with very great difficulty.
I was informed that there would have been considerable loss of life and much greater loss of property but for the strenuous efforts made by the officials and many of the leading non-officials to persuade the people living in this danger zone remove betimes to places of safety. In spite of the warnings and threats, a good number of persons still remained in the danger zone as they were under a delusion that the flood had reached the maximum the previous week and would not rise any higher, and such persons had a rude and most painful awakening when they found themselves surrounded by 3 or 4 feet water after midnight on the 24th July; and some of them had just time to save themselves, leaving the greater portion of the property behind in their houses which were destroyed by the floods.

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In the midst of this scene of desolation and havoc, it was indeed very gratifying to hear of the splendid rescue work done by all the prominent gentlemen of the town -both officials and non-officials- each vying with the other in the saving of life and property often at great personal risk.

fter finishing the inspection of the affected parts, proceeded to the District Office at about 2 P.M. and met there the leading gentlemen of the town (official as well as non-official) as also the inhabitants from some affected villages who had come to represent their difficulties. I opened the proceedings by expressing on behalf of Government my deep sympathy with the people of the town in their sufferings and conveying the thanks of Government to all the gentlemen -official as well as non-official- who had worked hard not only to save life and property in the first instance but also subsequently to mitigate the sufferings of the affected persons by organising relief work ~~by the formation of relief committees~~ and collecting subscriptions for a relief fund &c

I was given to understand that according to the list which was got prepared by the Vice President of the Municipality (Mr. Kubba Rao Naik) about 735 houses had suffered more or less severely from the floods and that over 250 of them had completely collapsed. Particulars of the money value of the damage done to houses as well as other properties had not been collected and I suggested this information being collected as early as possible to facilitate the administration of relief.

The following measures of relief were suggested by the gentlemen present:-

(1) Providing temporary accommodation for those who have lost their houses and who have no other places to go to.)

Most of these people are now accommodated in the Town Hall and the Government school buildings and a few in the out-houses of the P.W.D. and some of the vacant blocks in the Barr Lines. As the school buildings -

(11

cannot be made available much longer, it was proposed that the Courpalai's chattram ~~may~~ might be made available for the temporary accommodation of these homeless people, after getting the building examined by the Executive Engineer to see if it ~~is~~ has quite safe. It was also suggested that the Bowar Lines and the stables attached to it may be placed entirely at the disposal of the Municipality for the accommodation of the houseless people.

Meanwhile, arrangements will be made by the Relief Committee to rapidly run up ~~temporary~~ sheds in suitable sites selected in different parts of the town for temporarily accommodating these people, until they can rebuild their old houses or construct new ones which will take some months after the cessation of the monsoon. The cost of these sheds is proposed to be met from the funds of the Relief Committee. A sum of Rs.2,000 is said to have been sanctioned in aid of the fund by the Municipality and about Rs.750 subscribed by the townspeople and further collections are expected to be made.

3 and 4 allowed

The Forest Department will be required to supply such materials as they can for these sheds.

The Relief Committee members desired that the forest grass recently collected for fodder may be ordered to be supplied to them for thatching the sheds. The District Forest Officer was instructed to supply the grass to the Deputy Commissioner at once pending orders regarding the adjustment of its cost.

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½ Feeding. -Gratuitous Relief.

It was stated that about 200 destitute people have to be fed free for about a month, which is expected to cost about Rs.2,500. As the collections so far made by the Relief Committee will be quite insufficient for

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this purpose, the members of the Committee required that a sum of two or three thousand rupees might be sanctioned by Government for the purpose. I instructed the Deputy Commissioner to place at the disposal of the Committee about Rs.2,500 out of the sum of Rs.5,000 sanctioned for gratuitous relief for the district.

(3) Construction of houses. (permanent)

The question whether the low lying localities of the town which were subject to periodical inundations should not be altogether abandoned and rebuilding of the houses therein prohibited altogether by the Municipality was discussed. Opinion was divided on this point -some being for compulsory evacuation of the localities and others for resorting to persuasion and not compulsion. It was brought to notice that the local co-operative society had lent a large sum of money on the security of houses in the submerged area and that it would lose heavily if the restoration of the houses in this area was prohibited. I suggested that all aspects of the question may be considered and threshed out and suitable action taken by the Municipal Council. It was proposed by some of the gentlemen present that house building loans might be advanced by Government for the restoration and repair of the houses and for the construction of new houses, the loans being granted either free of interest or for nominal interest through a building co-operative society which will be formed for the purpose. and I was informed that a sum of at least Rs.50,000 will have to be sanctioned by Government for this purpose. I informed the meeting that the suggestion was [illegible] will receive the favourable consideration of Government.

Mr. Ananthiah requested that sawn and dressed

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timber may be issued from the Government saw mill either free or at cost price -i.e. only the cost of the preparation of the timber at the mill being recovered, no value being put on the timber.

(4) Protective measures to guard against future floods.

It was represented that the present inundation of the town was due to the absence of proper protective works to the river near the Police ookkad where the river takes a bend and changes its course towards the town so as to be always a source of danger and menace to the town, that it was very necessary for the future safety of the town that suitable protective works to the river should be undertaken at this point, and that the work may cost about a lakh of rupees which the Municipality was too poor to provide and that it should therefore be undertaken by Government at their cost. The people were informed that the question will be required to be investigated by the Chief Engineer and that on receipt of his report necessary further action will be taken by Government.

(5) Relief to villagers who have suffered from the floods.

Mr. Ananthiah suggested that in the surrounding villages where the crops had been destroyed by the floods, remission of assessment might be granted, that seed of quick growing variety of paddy might be supplied to the ryots to enable them to re-cultivate the lands wherever possible, and that in cases where the lands were silted up by the inundation and could only be rendered fit for cultivation at a considerable cost, a progressive rate of remission extending over some years might be granted. The Deputy Commissioner was requested

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to submit proposals for remission of assessment and ~~xxxx~~ to arrange for the supply of quick-growing variety of paddy seed, in consultation with the Director of Agriculture. The ryots were informed that the representation regarding remission will receive favourable consideration.

A few ryots of Chetnahalli, a hamlet ½ mile off from Shimoga, represented that the floods had washed away 21 out of the 25 houses in the village and requested that as they had lost their grain and their crops they might be given relief and that they ~~may~~ might also be given sites free in a suitable place to build houses and also given building materials free. The Deputy Commissioner was requested to inspect the locality and arrange at once for the grant of necessary relief to the sufferers.

After finishing the meeting, went to the Deputy Commissioner's quarters for tea.

Then visited with the Deputy Commissioner and the Vice President of the Municipality and others, the Barr and Sowar lines to see how far the houseless people can be temporarily accommodated there. The Barr lines blocks are mostly in a state of considerable disrepair and in consequence some of the men are occupying the Sowar lines and it is not possible to remove them from there. The Barr Subedar is working however, to make all the vacant blocks in the Barr lines available for the use of the people; but in the present condition of the lines, they are not of much use.

The repair of the Barr lines ~~should~~ will have to be undertaken by the Military Department without delay, if the buildings are to be saved from further deterioration and ruin

Left Shimoga at 6.30 P.M. and reached Tarikere at about 8 P.M.

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2nd August 1924.

In the morning went round the Tarikere town, visiting the several public offices and buildings &c.

(1) Veterinary Dispensary.

This is located in a small rented building. Accommodation is quite inadequate. No place for keeping animals as in-patients.

(2) A.V. School building.

This is located in the old taluk office building. Some of the walls are cracked and require urgent repair.

In the primary school building attached to it, one of the walls has come down and the classes have been temporarily shifted to the A.V. school building. This should be set right at once.

(3) Musafirkhana

This is an eye sore at the entrance to the town. Earliest opportunity should be taken to knock it down and build a good musafirkhana, if necessary, in some other locality.

Two houses and a smithy shed near the musafirkhana have been acquired but though the owners are said to have been paid compensation over a year ago, the place has not been evacuated by them and taken possession of by the Department concerned. Action should be taken forthwith for the removal of the houses and the shed.

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(4) Government chattram (Muzrai)

This chattram having been abolished, the building has been ordered recently to be made over to the District Board for use as a musafirkhana. It is understood that the District Board has not yet made

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arrangements for the management of the building.

The President and the Vice President of the Municipality said that the Municipality will be prepared to take over the building and maintain it as a rest House for travellers if it is made over to them. The Deputy Commissioner will be asked to obtain a resolution from the Municipal Board in this respect and after consulting the District Board about it send it up for the orders of the Government through the Khasai Commissioner.

(5) Town Police station.

The roof of the rear verandah which is said to have come down a year ago still remains unrepaired. Action should be taken at once for repairing it.

There is a neem tree with an image by its side in the compound of the Police station and just by the side of the rear wall of the station building. As this is worshipped by some of the towns-people, they want the place to be given over to them and the station-building removed to some other place in the vicinity. This may be done if the arrangement does not entail any extra cost to Government.

(6) Hindustani Boys' School and Girls' School.

The Girls' school is located in an ill-ventilated and miserable building in a congested lane.

The Mahomedan community desire that the girls' school should be removed to the present Boys' school building, the Katcha building with country tiles by the side of the latter being repaired and utilised as the school mistress's quarters and that a new building should be provided for the boys' school near the M.V. school.

This is a very good suggestion which may be

(17)

adopted as soon as the Education Department can find the funds required to give effect to it.

7) Ayurvedic Dispensary.

Is well attended and the physician in charge who has been here for over 10 years is said to be very popular.

(8) General.

The condition of the roads, drains and the - general conservancy and sanitation of the town are far from satisfactory.

This Municipality has a very good income (about Rs.25,000 a year) and has about Rs.75,000 at its credit, which is intended to be utilised for the water supply project for the town. It is said that a project for about 2 lakhs has been prepared but that it has been held up as the Government would not sanction a moiety of the cost. The President was asked to send a further representation in the matter for the consideration of Government.

There has been marked increase in the receipts under the several heads of the municipal revenue since the present Vice President (Mr. Meer Mahomed) took charge and it has to be chiefly attributed to his disinterestedness and energy.

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After breakfast, left Tarikere at about 1 P.M. and motored over to Narasimharajpur reaching it at 6 P.M. On the way visited the following villages by the side of the Bhadra river which had suffered more or less from the recent floods:—

(i) Singanahalli

(ii) Sompur.

Some huts in these villages have come down but there was no damage to other property as the roofs were fore-

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forewarned and removed themselves in time to places of safety.

Action is being taken by the Sub Division Office to remove these villages higher up.

The Sompur temple -a very ancient institution- had 3 feet of water inside. But the building has not suffered any material damage.

(iii) Lakvalli.

Bestharkere and Upparkere by the river side have suffered badly, nearly two dozen houses having come down, and some others damaged. But there was no loss of other property as the Amildar had removed the men from the houses almost against their wish the previous week when the river had risen dangerously high and posted police men to prevent their getting into it again. This measure, though resented by the men at the time, was subsequently acknowledged by them as having saved them and their properties from destruction.

It is proposed to remove the houses in these localities altogether and have them rebuilt on high ground. The dry portion of survey numbers 29 and 27 of the village are quite suitable for the purpose and the Deputy Commissioner is requested to take needful action at once for the acquisition of ~~houses~~ the lands and the ~~abolishment~~ allotment of sites there for the owners of houses in the flooded portions of the village.

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3rd August 1924.

Left Narasimharajpur at 11 A.M. for Koppa and Hariharpur and returned at 8 P.M. at night.

The road from Narasimharajpur to Agumbi which had been badly damaged in several places from the recent floods has been set right and restored for traffic so that busses are now plying up to Agumbi.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Vice President of the Kadur District Board met me at Koppa and accompanied me from there to Hariharpur.

The Jemmatige village situated on the river bank about a mile from Hariharpur and inhabited by Brahmins has suffered badly by erosion and the removal of the houses from the village site is a measure of urgent necessity. A good site has been selected for the purpose but the villagers want to have a well there before they can build on the site, and it is necessary that one should be provided.

At Hariharpur a large number of persons from different villages had collected under the leadership of Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao to meet me and represent their grievance. Mr. Krishna Rao represented that more than 50% of the wet lands had been cut up and very badly damaged by the floods requiring heavy outlay for their restoration to cultivation, that remission of a year's assessment will be of no use in respect of such lands, and that nothing else than a wholesale remission of half the assessment on all wet lands in the taluk -whether damaged by the flood or not- will satisfy the people, or serve to ameliorate the condition of the malnad. I told him that the general problem of the amelioration of the malnad

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will have to be dealt with separately and should not be mixed up with the immediate question now before us which was to give relief to the sufferers from flood, and that I should like to have his suggestions in respect of the immediate relief measures required in connection with the havoc caused by the flood. He expressed at first his unwillingness to discuss this question by itself but ultimately came forward with his suggestions which were as follows:-

(i) That villagewar lists should be prepared showing the nature of the damage done to each survey number, the amount that will be required to repair it and render the land fit for cultivation again.

(ii) That in the preparation of the above lists, some non-officials should be associated with the officials so that the latter may not minimise the extent of the damage.

(iii) That in the case of badly damaged lands requiring heavy outlay for restoration to cultivation remissions of assessment should be sanctioned for a long period as otherwise there was the likelihood of the lands being resigned by the occupants.

(iv) That the assessment for current year should be remitted for lands the crops on which had been completely damaged by the floods.

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(v) That liberal provision should be made for takavi loans and applications for the loans should be promptly disposed of, the rules in this respect being simplified if necessary.

(vi) That provision should be made for the grant of loans to Shilmidars on the security of the khatedars of the

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lands or the owners thereof even if they are not the khatedars.

The people assembled were informed that the above suggestions which were reasonable will receive the best consideration of Government.

Being asked whether any concessions were required in respect of garden lands, Mr. Krishna Rao said that he was not going to press for it, as he will be satisfied if the wet lands are dealt with in a liberal spirit as urged by ~~max~~ him.

It was ascertained that small extents of garden lands have been destroyed here and there by landslips. But such cases were said to be not numerous.

After finishing the meeting proceeded with the Deputy Commissioner and other local officers and accompanied by Mr. Krishna Rao to the villages of Nilvagal wherein a large extent of wet lands ~~were~~ said to have been very badly damaged and inspected the lands. A good extent of the wet lands in the low lying valley of Bikli and Nilvagal villages has been very badly damaged, about 3 or 4 feet of ~~water~~ sand having been deposited there, and deep ~~scores~~ scours having been made by the rush of water from the adjacent hill slopes and jungle streams. There is no doubt that some of the lands will require very heavy outlay to be again rendered fit for cultivation and that they ~~deserve~~ deserve to be dealt with in a liberal and sympathetic spirit -the more so as the occupants had, after the havoc caused by the last year's floods, put up embankments and other protective work at considerable expenses and these have all been again washed off in the recent floods.

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On the way back from Hariharpur, made about half an hour's stay at Koppa to meet the people of the place and have a talk with them.

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It was represented that the people ~~are~~ were put to great inconvenience for want of medicines in the local dispensary. The Sub Assistant Surgeon said that he had no quinine or mag. sulphate and that he was finding it difficult to meet without medicines the large number of malarial cases coming to the hospital.

The same complaint was made by some by the Sub Assistant Surgeon at Narasimharajpur also.

Hospitals and dispensaries can be of no use in the distant malnad places unless they are well stocked with medicines and it is hoped that the Senior Surgeon will give his attention to the matter.

It was brought to notice that the Taluk officials at Koppa are subjected to great inconvenience and hardship by having to sit on the damp floor in the office, during the monsoons, as they are not provided with chairs and tables, or even with planks. It would appear that an estimate for the supply of chairs and tables to the officials of the taluk was sanctioned some time back but was held up for want of funds. This is a matter of urgent and ~~important~~ imperative necessity and it is hoped that the Revenue Commissioner will see his way to find the necessary funds for meeting this want without further delay.

4th August 1924.

17

In the morning went round the town with the Deputy Commissioner, Sub Division Officer and others and visited the public offices and institutions.

The Munsiff's court in this place is a very light one and the Munsiff is able to close the court by 2 P.M. on nearly half the working days. If he is invested with -

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first class magisterial powers he can easily take up all the magisterial work of the Koppa taluk (including Sringeri and Narasimharajpur) along with his civil work. This arrangement will be a great convenience to the people of this taluk who have now to go all the way to Tarikere for second class cases and to Chickmagalur for first class cases. The Munsiff whom I consulted ~~on this point~~ who is quite agreeable to ~~it~~ his arrangement. The local bar are also of course quite in favour of the proposal.

The Bench Magistrate's court has also very light work -the total number of cases disposed of by them annually being only about 30 most of which are of a very petty - nature. This court is now located in a rented building. I think it should be possible to find accommodation for it in the Sub taluk office building with some slight re-adjustment. The District Magistrate has promised to look to this.

The walls of the Forest Sub Assistant Conservator's office building are badly cracked owing to the sinking of the foundation during the recent rains. Prompt attention should be given to its repair as otherwise there is the danger of the building coming down.

Left Narasimharajpur at 1 P.M. and motored to Bhadravati visiting on the way the Haledanivasa and Kotedanivasa villages which have suffered from the floods.

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It was brought to notice by some of the villagers on the way that they had not been paid compensation for the lands taken up for the Bhadravati-Rangenahalli tram line and that the assessment on the land had not been - written off. The Sub Division Officer said that declaration statements for the acquisition of the lands are under preparation.

This should be expedited and the acquisition of

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the lands completed without delay. Pending the final acquisition, the assessment on the area to be acquired should be temporarily remitted every year in the Talkar Talchta.

Left Bhadravati for Bangalore by the night train.

General.

The travellers' bungalows and other Government buildings visited by me in the Kadur District were generally in a very neglected condition, no repairs having been evidently carried out to them for years. The T.B.'s are all badly furnished. The explanations given by the Deputy Commissioner and the Executive Engineer for this state of affairs was want of funds.

In all the villages visited by me, it was very gratifying to hear the encomiums bestowed by the villagers on the local officers, for the energy, activity and sympathy shown by them in ~~warning for~~ warning the people and removing them to places of safety when the villagers were in danger of being flooded and later on in affording relief to the sufferers from the flood.

The Executive Engineer and his subordinate officers in the Kadur district deserve also great credit for the promptness with which they got repaired the damages caused to the roads, culverts and bridges and made possible within a brief interval of a week the resumption of normal traffic on all the roads except in a very few places wherein the damages were very serious.

19

A note containing my suggestions regarding the relief measures required for the Shimoga town and other rural tracts is herewith attached.

Yrs

25

Suggestions for relief measures to be adopted in connection with the flood havoc:-

I. Shimoga town.) cvr

(1) Action to be taken immediately for putting up sheds for the temporary and immediate accommodation of people whose houses have been destroyed by floods till they repair their houses.

(2) Rs.50,000 to be advanced by Government at a low rate of interest to a building co-operative society for grant of loans for the repair or reconstruction of houses.

(3) Timber to be supplied by the Forest Department at ~~half price~~ concession rate to sufferers from floods for reconstruction of houses. Materials ~~prepared~~ prepared in the saw mill to be supplied at ~~half~~ a concession rate for the value of the timber ~~plus~~ the ~~full~~ cost of preparation of the material being recovered extra.

(4) Protective works for the river to be undertaken at the cost of Government to prevent future inundation of the town.

(5) The Municipality to be required to take prompt and suitable action for the marking out of sites for shifting the houses in the flooded area and also for the complete evacuation of such area.

II. Rural tracts.) cvr

(1) Prompt action to be taken by the local officers to select sites for shifting the villages which have been destroyed by the floods.

20

Free grant of sites to be made to poor people as also to others who are prepared to abandon their present houses in the flooded villages.

Wells to be sunk at once ~~at Government cost~~ in all new sites selected for the building of the

26

present villages.

(2) Villagewar lists to be prepared of survey numbers which have been damaged by the floods and classified under the following heads:-

(a) Lands the crops on which have been completely destroyed but no serious damage has been done to the land itself.

(b) Lands which have been so badly damaged as to require a heavy outlay for their restoration to cultivation.

(c) Lands which have been rendered permanently unfit for cultivation.

The list may be prepared by the village officers with the help of one or two panchayetdars of the village and may be scrutinised by the superior officers -Amildar- S.D.O. who should check a certain - percentage of the entries by personal inspection.

One or two temporary mojinidars or trained Shekdars to be appointed for each taluk for the purpose.

Assessment for current year alone to be remitted for lands under class (a).

For lands under class (b) in cases in which the damage to the lands will cost more than Rs.50 per acre to repair, the assessment may be recovered at a progressive rate for the next four years. and where the damage will cost more than Rs.100 per acre the period for progressive rate of assessment may be extended ~~by one~~ Go 6or 8 years.

In respect of lands falling under clas (c) assessment to be completely written off.

21

(3) Takavi loans to be issued under the rules for the repair of damages to lands, for reconstruction of houses, purchase of seed grains, bullocks etc.

(27.

l applications for loans to be disposed of promptly.
– a forthnightly statement of the representations received and the action taken thereon.

les to be relaxed or modified so as to permit of the

f loans to shikmidars on the security of the owners

pants of the lands.

the case of loans granted for repairing damage to

re-payment to commence after 3 years.

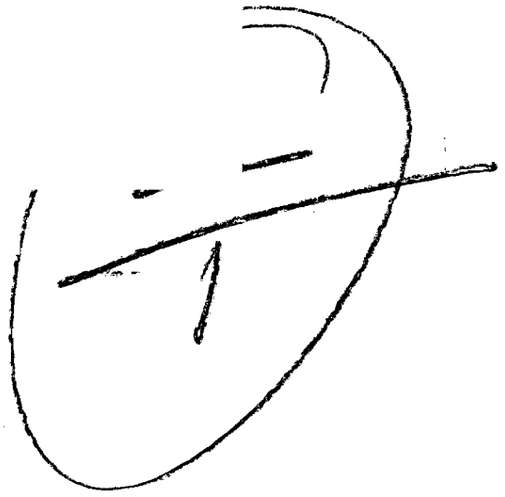
) Seed grains of quick growing variety of paddy

applied to persons whose crops have been destroyed,

market price prevalent for ordinary paddy in the

y, the value being treated as a takavi loan, if

ired by the applicant.



GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

General and Revenue Secretariat

28

Dated, Bangalore 18th October 1924.

No. G. 2847-94/G. M. 49-24.-4

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

The accompanying tour notes of the Second Member of Council in the Kadur and Shimoga Districts in July and August 1924 are forwarded for information and necessary action.

By Order,

Chief Secretary to Government.

To--The Secretaries to Government.
The Heads of Departments.
The Deputy Commissioners of Kadur and Shimoga Districts.
The Presidents of Kadur and Shimoga District Boards.
The Special Officer, Local Self Government.
The Government Director, Mysore Government Iron Works, Bhadravati.

(29)

G. R. S. VI–G-32]

B50—WD 0527

SUBJECT

Diary No. of letter replied to

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, the *192* .

Date of issue 18·10·24

Signed by Mr. M.V.J.

Section Gm

File No. 49-24)

Serial No. 4

O.m. No. G 2847-94

To

The accompanying four Notes of the Second Member of Council in the Kadur and Shimoga Dts in July and Aug 24 are forwarded for information and necessary action.

A. O.

For Secretary

To

The Secretaries to Govt

The Heads of Depts

The Dy Comrs of Kadur and Shimoga Dts

The Presidents of Kadur & Shimoga

over Dt. Bds

The Special Officer Local Self

The Govt Dir Mysore Govt Iron Works Bhadravathi

(30

TOUR NOTES OF THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL IN THE KADUR AND SHIMOGA DISTRICTS.

July and August 1924.

TOUR NOTES OF THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL IN THE KADUR AND SHIMOGA DISTRICTS.

July and August 1924.

31ST JULY 1924.

LEFT Bangalore in the morning by the passenger train for Tarikere.

The Deputy Commissioner of Kadur with the Executive Engineer and the Police Superintendent of the District met me at Birur and accompanied me from there to Tarikere.

Messrs. C. Ranganatha Rao Sahib (Director, Mysore Iron Works) and Mr. Machiah met me on arrival at Tarikere.

Inspected with Mr. Ranganatha Rao Sahib, the Deputy Commissioner and the Vice-President of the Tarikere Municipality the sheds belonging to the Bhadravati Iron Works, about 3 furlongs from the Travellers' Bungalow.

There are about 20 *katcha* sheds (with tatti walls plastered with mud, and roofing of pot tiles) and a good pakka building with Mangalore tiled roof. Most of the *katcha* sheds are in dilapidated condition. The land on which the sheds stand is about 4 acres in extent, and is said to have been acquired for the Iron Works at a cost of about Rs. 2,000. Mr. Ranganatha Rao Sahib said that the land as well as the buildings are no longer wanted for the Iron Works and that he wanted to dispose of them. The land with the sheds may well be taken over to the Municipality to be used as health camps on occasions of outbreak of epidemics like plague, etc., in the town.

1ST AUGUST 1924.

Left Tarikere for Shimoga by motor at 9-30 A.M., and arrived at the latter place at about 11 A.M. Mr. Machiah, District Forest Officer of Bhadravati who is in temporary charge of the Shimoga Forest Division joined me at Bhadravati and accompanied me to Shimoga. The Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga (Mr. Taj Peeran) with the Executive Engineer of the District, (Mr. Steele) and the District Superintendent of Police (Mr. Abdul Gani) also joined me about a mile beyond Bhadravati. A few *katcha* houses and sheds on the road side close to the river at Bhadravati have been badly damaged by the recent high floods. At Islapur, a hamlet at the out-skirts of Shimoga, beyond the Railway Station, some houses have collapsed and others badly damaged. There were traces on the walls of the houses to show that water had risen to a height of nearly 6 feet.

The wood-yard adjoining the Shimoga Railway Station had all been flooded, and a considerable quantity of timber stocked here which belonged to Messrs. Ameer Ahmed and Bhishan Singh, Contractors, had been washed away. Mr. Ameer Ahmad's house (a substantial building) was under water to a height of 6 or 7 feet and has collapsed, and timber valued at some thousands of rupees stocked behind the house has been washed away.

Visited the Government wood-yard, Sandal Koti, the travellers' bungalow and the Railway Station. Water had collected to a depth of 5 feet in the Government wood-yard, and most of the timber stocked there had been washed away. Though there was 2 or 3 feet water in the Sandal Koti enclosure, the sandal-wood stocked there luckily escaped being washed off owing to the protection of the compound wall. In view of the recurring damage caused to the wood-yard it is desirable to shift it to a higher place which will be safe from inundation. *The Conservator will be requested to look into the matter and submit necessary proposals.*

The Railway line which had been washed away for some furlongs near the station has been repaired. The main line has just been restored for passenger traffic right up to the station, and I am informed that it would be ready for goods traffic also in 2 or 3 days. The Railway Engineer, Mr. A. Visvanath is supervising the restoration work in person.

The Travellers' Bungalow has not suffered any damage, the flood level having just reached the compound and not touched the main building. The out-houses of the Travellers' Bungalow are occupied by the poor people who have been rendered homeless and destitute by the collapse of their houses.

The Courpalai's choultry has also not suffered much damage though it was under water to a height of 3 or 4 feet.

The District Medical Officer, the Vice-President of the Municipality (Mr. Subba Rao Naik), the members of the Relief Committee and some other leading gentlemen Messrs. C. Subba Rao, Garudachar, Seetharamiah, Valentine, Sesha Sastri, Ameer Ahmad, Bhishan Singh, etc., having joined me, went round with them and visited all the parts of the town which had suffered from the floods, the Chick Brahmin street, Ekambara Pillai street, Big Brahmin street, Seegehatti, Kumbargiri, Kanchugar Beedi, Tankur Shama Rao's street, Thimmappan Koppal, etc. A very large number of houses some of them very valuable and substantial ones in this locality have completely collapsed and others so badly damaged as to be unfit for occupation unless they are repaired at a heavy cost. The Police Ookkad at the end of the town has crumbled down and been washed away. The river which takes a bend and practically changes its course at this spot has overflown the banks and rushed into the town towards the Kumbargundi completely enveloping the Big Brahmin street and some other streets the inhabitants of which numbering about 200 are said to have sought shelter in the house of Mr. Kerodi Rama Rao which is on somewhat high level from which they were rescued in boats with very great difficulty. I was informed that there would have been considerable loss of life and also greater loss of property but for the strenuous efforts made by the officials and many of the leading non-officials to persuade the people living in this danger zone to remove betimes to places of safety. In spite of the warnings and threats, a good number of persons still remained in the danger zone as they were under a delusion that the flood had reached the maximum the previous week and would not rise any higher, and such persons had a rude and most painful awakening when they found themselves surrounded by 3 or 4 feet water after midnight on the 24th July; and some of them had just time to save themselves, leaving the greater portion of the property behind in their houses which were destroyed by the floods.

In the midst of this scene of desolation and havoc, it was indeed very gratifying to hear of the splendid rescue work done by all the prominent gentlemen of the town both officials and non-officials each vying with the other in the saving of life and property often at great personal risk.

After finishing the inspection of the affected parts, proceeded to the District Office at about 2 P.M. and met there the leading gentlemen of the town official as well as non-official as also the inhabitants from some affected villages who had come to represent their difficulties. I opened the proceedings by expressing on behalf of Government my deep sympathy with the people of the town in their sufferings and conveying the thanks of Government to all the gentlemen—official as well as non-official—who had worked hard not only to save life and property in the first instance but also subsequently to mitigate the sufferings of the affected persons by organising relief work and collecting subscriptions for a relief fund, etc.

I was given to understand that according to the list which was got prepared by the Vice-President of the Municipality (Mr. Subba Rao Naik) about 735 houses had suffered more or less severely from the floods and that over 250 of them had completely collapsed. Particulars of the money value of the damage done to houses as well as other properties had not been collected, and I suggested this information being collected as early as possible to facilitate the administration of relief.

The following measures of relief were suggested by the gentlemen present :—

(1) *Providing temporary accommodation for those who have lost their houses and who have no other places to go to.*—Most of these people are now accommodated

in the Town Hall and the Government school buildings and a few in the out-houses of the Travellers' Bungalow and some of the vacant blocks in the Barr Lines. As the school buildings cannot be made available much longer, it was proposed that the Courpalai's Chattram might be made available for the temporary accommodation of these homeless people, after getting the building examined by the Executive Engineer to see if it was quite safe. It was also suggested that the Sowar Lines and the stables attached to it may be placed entirely at the disposal of the Municipality for the accommodation of the houseless people.

Meanwhile, arrangements will be made by the Relief Committee to rapidly run up sheds in suitable sites selected in different parts of the town for temporarily accommodating these people, until they can rebuild their old houses or construct new ones which will take some months after the cessation of the monsoon. The cost of these sheds is proposed to be met from the funds of the Relief Committee. A sum of Rs. 2,000 is said to have been sanctioned in aid of the fund by the Municipality and about Rs. 750 subscribed by the towns-people and further collections are expected to be made.

The Forest Department will be required to supply such materials as they can for these sheds.

The Relief Committee members desired that the forest grass recently collected for fodder may be ordered to be supplied to them for thatching the sheds. *The District Forest Officer was instructed to supply the grass to the Deputy Commissioner at once pending orders regarding the adjustment of its cost.*

(2) *Feeding—Gratuitous Relief.*—It was stated that about 200 destitute people have to be fed free for about a month, which is expected to cost about Rs. 2,500. As the collections so far made by the Relief Committee will be quite insufficient for this purpose, the members of the Committee required that a sum of two or three thousand Rupees, might be sanctioned by Government for the purpose. *I instructed the Deputy Commissioner to place at the disposal of the Committee about Rs. 2,500 out of the sum of Rs. 5,000 sanctioned for gratuitous relief for the district.*

(3) *Construction of houses. (Permanent).*—The question whether the low lying localities of the town which were subject to periodical inundations should not be altogether abandoned and rebuilding of the houses therein prohibited altogether by the Municipality was discussed. Opinion was divided on this point—some being for compulsory evacuation of the localities and others for resorting to persuation and not compulsion. It was brought to notice that the local co-operative society had lent a large sum of money on the security of houses in the submerged area and that it would lose heavily if the restoration of the houses in this area was prohibited. I suggested that all aspects of the question may be considered and threshed out and suitable action taken by the Municipal Council. It was proposed by some of the gentlemen present that house building loans might be advanced by Government for the restoration and repair of the houses and for the construction of new houses, the loans being granted either free of interest or for nominal interest through a building co-operative society which will be formed for the purpose and I was informed that a sum of at least Rs. 50,000 will have to be sanctioned by Government for this purpose. I informed the meeting that the suggestion will receive the favourable consideration of Government.

Mr. Ananthiah requested that sawn and dressed timber may be issued from the Government saw mill either free or at cost price, *i.e.*, only the cost of the preparation of the timber at the mill being recovered, no value being put on the timber.

(4) *Protective measures to guard against future floods.*—It was represented that the present inundation of the town was due to the absence of proper protective works to the river near the Police Ookkad where the river takes a bend and changes its course towards the town so as to be always a source of danger and menace to the town, that it was very necessary for the future safety of the town that suitable protective works to the river should be undertaken at this point, that the work may cost about a lakh of rupees which the Municipality was too poor to provide and that it should therefore be undertaken by Government at their cost. *The people were informed that the question will be required to be investigated by the Chief Engineer and that on receipt of his report necessary further action will be taken by Government.*

(5) *Relief to villagers who have suffered from the floods.*—Mr. Ananthiah suggested that in the surrounding villages where the crops had been destroyed by the floods, remission of assessment might be granted, that seed of quick growing variety of paddy might be supplied to the raiyats to enable them to re-cultivate the lands wherever possible, and that in cases where the lands were silted up by the inundation and could only be rendered fit for cultivation at a considerable cost, a progressive rate of remission extending over some years might be granted. *The Deputy Commissioner was requested to submit proposals for remission of assessment and to arrange for the supply of quick-growing variety of paddy seed, in consultation with the Director of Agriculture.* The raiyats were informed that the representation regarding remission will receive favourable consideration.

A few raiyats of Chetnahalli, a hamlet a mile off from Shimoga, represented that the floods had washed away 21 out of the 25 houses in the village, and requested that as they had lost their grain and their crops they might be given relief and that they might also be given sites free in a suitable place to build houses and also given building materials free. *The Deputy Commissioner was requested to inspect the locality and arrange at once for the grant of necessary relief to the sufferers.*

After finishing the meeting went to the Deputy Commissioner's quarters for tea.

Then visited with the Deputy Commissioner and the Vice-President of the Municipality and others, the Barr and Sowar lines to see how far the houseless people can be temporarily accommodated there. The Barr lines blocks are mostly in a state of considerable disrepair, and in consequence, some of the men are occupying the Sowar lines and it is not possible to remove them from there. The Barr Subedar is working however, to make all the vacant blocks in the Barr lines available for the use of the people; but in the present condition of the lines, they are not of much use.

The repair of the Barr lines will have to be undertaken by the Military Department without delay, if the buildings are to be saved from further deterioration and ruin.

Left Shimoga at 6-30 P.M., and reached Tarikere at about 8 P.M.

2ND AUGUST 1924.

In the morning went round the Tarikere town, visiting the several public offices and buildings, etc.

(1) *Veterinary Dispensary.*—This is located in a small rented building. Accommodation is quite inadequate. No place for keeping animals as in-patients.

(2) *A.-V. School Building.*—This is located in the old taluk office building. Some of the walls are cracked, and require urgent repair.

In the primary school building attached to it, one of the walls has come down, and the classes have been temporarily shifted to the A.-V. school building. *This should be set right at once.*

(3) *Musafirkhana.*—This is an eye-sore at the entrance to the town. *Earliest opportunity should be taken to knock it down and build a good musafirkhana, if necessary, in some other locality.*

Two houses and a smithy shed near the musafirkhana have been acquired, but though the owners are said to have been paid compensation over a year ago, the place has not been evacuated by them and taken possession of by the Department concerned. *Action should be taken forthwith for the removal of the houses and the shed.*

4) *Government Chattram (Muzrai).*—This chattram having been abolished, the building has been ordered recently to be made over to the District Board for use as a musafirkhana. It is understood that the District Board has not yet made arrangements for the management of the building.

The President and the Vice-President of the Municipality said that the Municipality will be prepared to take over the building and maintain it as a rest house for travellers, if it is made over to them. *The Deputy Commissioner will be asked*

to obtain a resolution from the Municipal Board in this respect and after consulting the District Board about it, send it up for the orders of the Government through the Muzrai Commissioner.

(5) *Town Police Station.*—The roof of the rear verandah which is said to have come down a year ago still remains unrepaired. *Action should be taken at once for repairing it.*

There is a neem-tree with an image by its side in the compound of the Police Station and just by the side of the rear wall of the station building. As this is worshipped by some of the towns-people, they want the place to be given over to them and the station building removed to some other place in the vicinity. *This may be done if the arrangement does not entail any extra cost to Government.*

(6) *Hindustani Boys' School and Girls' School.*—The Girls' school is located in an ill-ventilated and miserable building in a congested lane.

The Mahomedan community desire that the girls' school should be removed to the present Boys' school building, the *katcha* building with country tiles by the side of the latter being repaired and utilised as the school mistress's quarters and that a new building should be provided for the boys' school near the A.-V. School.

This is a very good suggestion which may be adopted as soon as the Education Department can find the funds required to give effect to it.

(7) *Ayurvedic Dispensary.*—Is well attended, and the physician in charge who has been here for over 10 years is said to be very popular.

(8) *General.*—The condition of the roads, drains and the general conservancy and sanitation of the town are far from satisfactory.

This Municipality has a very good income (about Rs. 25,000 a year), and has about Rs. 75,000 at its credit, which is intended to be utilised for the water supply project for the town. It is said that a project for about 2 lakhs has been prepared, but that it has been held up as the Government would not sanction a moiety of the cost. *The President was asked to send a further representation in the matter for the consideration of Government.*

There has been marked increase in the receipts under the several heads of the municipal revenue since the present Vice-President (Mr. Meer Mahomed) took charge, and it has to be chiefly attributed to his disinterestedness and energy.

After breakfast, left Tarikere at about 1 P.M., and motored over to Narasimharajpur, reaching it at 6 P.M. On the way visited the following villages by the side of the Bhadra river which had suffered more or less from the recent floods :—

(i) Singanahalli

(ii) Sompur.

Some huts in these villages have come down, but there was no damage to other property as the raiyats were forewarned, and removed themselves in time to places of safety.

Action is being taken by the Sub-Division Officer to remove these villages higher up.

The Sompur temple, a very ancient institution, had 3 feet of water inside. But the building has not suffered any material damage.

(*iii*) Lakkavalli.

Bestharkere and Upparkere by the riverside have suffered badly, nearly too dozen houses having come down, and some others damaged. But there was no loss of other property as the Amildar had removed the men from the houses almost against their wish the previous week when the river had risen dangerously high, and posted policemen to prevent their getting into it again. This measure, though resented by the men at the time, was subsequently acknowledged by them as having saved them and their properties from destruction.

It is proposed to remove the houses in these localities altogether and have them rebuilt on high ground. The dry portion of survey numbers 29 and 27 of the village are quite suitable for the purpose and *the Deputy Commissioner is requested*

to take needful action at once for the acquisition of the lands and the allotment of sites there for the owners of houses in flooded portions of the village.

3RD AUGUST 1924.

Left Narasimharajpur at 11 A.M., for Koppa and Hariharpur and returned at 8 P.M., at night.

The road from Narasimharajpur to Agumbi which had been badly damaged in several places from the recent floods has been set right and restored for traffic so that buses are now plying up to Agumbi.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Vice-President of the Kadur District Board, met me at Koppa, and accompanied me from there to Hariharpur.

The Jemmatige village situated on the river bank about a mile from Hariharpur and inhabited by Brahmins has suffered badly by erosion and the removal of the houses from the village site is a measure of urgent necessity. A good site has been selected for the purpose but the villagers want to have a well there before they can build on the site.

At Hariharpur a large number of persons from different villages had collected under the leadership of Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao to meet me and represent their grievance. Mr. Krishna Rao represented that more than 50 per cent of the wet lands had been cut up and very badly damaged by the floods requiring heavy outlay for their restoration to cultivation, that remission of a year's assessment will be of no use in respect of such lands, and that nothing else than a wholesale remission of half the assessment on all wet lands in the taluk whether damaged by the flood or not will satisfy the people, or serve to ameliorate the condition of the Malnad. I told him that the general problem of the amelioration of the Malnad will have to be dealt with separately and should not be mixed up with the immediate question now before us which was to give relief to the sufferers from flood, and that I should like to have his suggestions in respect of the immediate relief measures required in connection with the havoc caused by the flood. He expressed at first his unwillingness to discuss this question by itself but ultimately came forward with his suggestions which were as follows :-

(*i*) That villagewar lists should be prepared showing the nature of the damage done to each survey number, the amount that will be required to repair it and render the land fit for cultivation again.

(*ii*) That in the preparation of the above lists, some non-officials should be associated with the officials so that the latter may not minimise the extent of the damage.

(*iii*) That in the case of badly damaged lands requiring heavy outlay for restoration to cultivation remission of assessment should be sanctioned for a long period as otherwise there was the likelihood of the lands being resigned by the occupants.

(*iv*) That the assessment for current year should be remitted for lands the crops on which had been completely damaged by the floods.

(*v*) That liberal provision should be made for takavi loans and applications for the loans should be promptly disposed of, the rules in this respect being simplified if necessary.

(*vi*) That provision should be made for the grant of loans to Shikmidars on the security of the Khatedars of the lands or the owners thereof even if they are not the khatedars.

The people assembled were informed that the above suggestions which were reasonable will receive the best consideration of Government.

Being asked whether any concessions were required in respect of garden lands, Mr. Krishna Rao said that he was not going to press for it, as he will be satisfied if the wet lands are dealt with in a liberal spirit as urged by him.

It was ascertained that small extents of garden lands have been destroyed here and there by landslips. But such cases were said to be not numerous.

After finishing the meeting proceeded with the Deputy Commissioner and other local officers, and accompanied by Mr. Krishna Rao to the village of Nilvagal

wherein a large extent of wet lands said to have been very badly damaged and inspected the lands. A good extent of the wet lands in the low lying valley of Bikli and Nilvagal villages has been very badly damaged, about 3 or 4 feet of sand having been deposited thereon, and deep scours having been made by the rush of water from the adjacent hill slopes and jungle streams. There is no doubt that some of the lands will require very heavy outlay to be again rendered fit for cultivation and that they deserve to be dealt with in a liberal and sympathetic spirit the more so as the occupants had, after the havoc caused by the last year's floods, put up embankments and other protective work at considerable expenses and these have all been again washed off in the recent floods.

On the way back from Hariharpur, made about half an hour's stay at Koppa to meet the people of the place and have a talk with them.

It was represented that the people were put to great inconvenience for want of medicines in the local dispensary. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon said that he had no quinine or mag. sulphate and that he was finding it difficult to meet without medicines the large number of malarial cases coming to the hospital.

The same complaint was made to me by the Sub-Assistant Surgeon at Narasimharajpur also.

Hospitals and dispensaries can be of no use in the distant malnad places unless they are well stocked with medicines, and it is hoped that the Senior Surgeon will give his attention to the matter.

It was brought to notice that the Taluk officials at Koppa are subjected to great inconvenience and hardship by having to sit on the damp floor in the office during the monsoons, as they are not provided with chairs and tables, or even with planks. It would appear that an estimate for the supply of chairs and tables to the officials of the taluk was sanctioned some time back, but was held up for want of funds. This is a matter of urgent and imperative necessity, and *it is hoped that the Revenue Commissioner will see his way to find the necessary funds for meeting this want without further delay.*

4TH AUGUST 1924.

In the morning went round the town with the Deputy Commissioner, Sub-Division Officer and others and visited the public offices and institutions.

The Munsiff's court in this place is a very light one, and the Munsiff is able to close the court by 2 P.M. on nearly half the working days. If he is invested with first class magisterial powers he can easily take up all the magisterial work of the Koppa taluk (including Sringeri and Narasimharajpur) along with his civil work. This arrangement will be a great convenience to the people of this taluk who have now to go all the way to Tarikere for second class cases and to Chickmagalur for first class cases. The Munsiff whom I consulted was quite agreeable to this arrangement. The local bar are also of course quite in favour of the proposal.

The Bench Magistrate's court has also very light work, the total number of cases disposed of by them annually being only about 30 most of which are of a very petty nature. This court is now located in a rented building. I think it should be possible to find accommodation for it in the Sub-Taluk Office building with some slight re-adjustment. *The District Magistrate has promised to look to this.*

The walls of the Forest Sub-Assistant Conservator's office building are badly cracked owing to the sinking of the foundation during the recent rains. *Prompt attention should be given to its repair as otherwise there is the danger of the building coming down.*

Left Narasimharajpur at 1 P.M. and motored to Bhadravati visiting on the way the Haledanivasa and Kotidanivasa villages which have suffered from the floods.

It was brought to notice by some of the villagers on the way that they had not been paid compensation for the lands taken up for the Bhadravati-Rangenahalli tram line and that the assessment on the land had not been written off. The Sub-Division Officer said that declaration statements for the acquisition of the lands are under preparation.

This should be expedited, and the acquisition of the lands completed without delay. Pending the final acquisition, the assessment on the area to be acquired should be temporarily remitted every year in the Takrar Takhta.

Left Bhadravati for Bangalore by the night train.

General.—The travellers' bungalows and other Government buildings visited by me in the Kadur District were generally in a very neglected condition, no repairs having been evidently carried out to them for years. The travellers' bungalows are already furnished. The explanations given by the Deputy Commissioner and the Executive Engineer for this state of affairs was want of funds.

In all the villages visited by me, it was very gratifying to hear the encomiums bestowed by the villagers on the local officers, for the energy, activity and sympathy shown by them in warning the people and removing them to places of safety when the villagers were in danger of being flooded and later on in affording relief to the sufferers from the flood.

The Executive Engineer and his subordinate officers in the Kadur District deserve also great credit for the promptness with which they got repaired the damages caused to the roads, culverts and bridges and made possible within a brief interval of a week the resumption of normal traffic on all the roads except in a very few places wherein the damages were very serious.

A note containing my suggestions regarding the relief measures required for the Shimoga town and other rural tracts is herewith attached.

Suggestions for relief measures to be adopted in connection with the flood havoc :—

I. Shimoga town.—

(1 Action to be taken immediately for putting up sheds for the temporary and immediate accommodation of people whose houses have been destroyed by floods till they repair their houses.

2) Rs. 50,000 to be advanced by Government at a low rate of interest to a Building co-operative society for grant of loans for the repair or reconstruction of houses.

3 Timber to be supplied by the Forest Department at concession rate to sufferers from floods for reconstruction of houses. Materials prepared in the saw-mill to be supplied at a concession rate for the value of the timber, the cost of preparation of the material being recovered extra.

4. Protective works for the river to be undertaken at the cost of Government to prevent future inundation of the town.

5. The municipality to be required to take prompt and suitable action for the marking out of sites for shifting the houses in the flooded area and also for the complete evacuation of such area.

II. Rural tracts.—

(1. Prompt action to be taken by the local officers to select sites for shifting the villages which have been destroyed by the floods.

Free grant of sites to be made to poor people as also to others who are prepared to abandon their present houses in the flooded villages.

Wells to be sunk at once in all new sites selected for the shifting of the present villages.

2) Villagewar lists to be prepared of survey numbers which have been damaged by the floods and classified under the following heads :—

(1) Lands the crops on which have been completely destroyed but no serious damage has been done to the land itself.

(2) Lands which have been so badly damaged as to require a heavy outlay for the restoration to cultivation.

(3. Lands which have been rendered permanently unfit for cultivation.

The list may be prepared by the village officers with the help of one or two panchayatdars of the village, and may be scrutinised by the superior officer Inspector and Sub-Division officer who should check a certain percentage of the entries by personal inspection.

One or two temporary mofussilars or trained Sheikdars to be appointed for each taluk for the purpose.

Assessment for current year alone to be remitted for lands under class (a).

For lands under class (b) in cases in which the damage to the lands will cost more than Rs. 50 per acre to repair, the assessment may be recovered at a progressive rate for the next four years, and where the damage will cost more than Rs. 100 per acre the period for progressive rate of assessment may be extended to six or eight years.

In respect of lands falling under class (c) assessment may be completely written off.

(3) Takavi loans to be issued under the rules for the repair of damages to lands, for reconstruction of houses, purchase of seed grains, bullocks, etc.

All applications for loans to be disposed of promptly within a fortnight of the presentation of the applications.

Rules to be relaxed or modified so as to permit of the grant of loans to shikmidars on the security of the owners or occupants of the lands.

In the case of loans granted for repairing damage to lands, re-payment to commence after three years.

(4) Seed grains of quick-growing variety of paddy to be supplied to persons whose crops have been destroyed at the market price prevalent for ordinary paddy in the locality, the value being treated as a takavi loan, if so required by the applicant.

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